

Riverina Murray Landcare Update Thurs 5th July 2018

What's been happening

28 June **Holbrook Landcare Network** are continuing to provide landholders in the Upper Murray and South West Slopes access to coordinated soil testing. This program has been running for 7 years and helps landholders be more effective in their soil fertility management.

28 June **IREC and Rice Extension present a Business and Technology Forum at Griffith** with over 50 people attending. The key learnings included importance of up to date WHS practices and the investigation of new technologies and how they can be applied.

28 June **NutriSoil's Annual Event: New Agriculture** had 200 people attend. Traditionally [NutriSoil](#) have attracted farmers to this event, with the aim of supporting them in building regenerative farming systems. This year they also invite people interested in human health, who are the consumers, to join them in the evening talk on Gut health. Their intention is to build consumer awareness that HOW food is grown, affects human health.

Fri 29 June Bringing the primary producers of Southern NSW together for a celebration of agriculture is the focus of the **FarmLink Annual Dinner**, and this year, in keeping with our theme of country hospitality, we're heading to Dirnaseer Hall. Guest speaker John Stevenson, a Nuffield Scholar and Lockhart farm manager who spent 10 weeks overseas exploring international agriculture, will share some of the eye-opening experiences of his Nuffield tour.

29th June. **TARCUTTA VALLEY LANDCARE** Tarcutta Valley Landcare Group hosted a very special lunch with Charles Massy, with 40 people attending. The talk was well received with attendees treated to Charles' fascinating story, peppered with engaging ideas and anecdotes, helpful tips and inspiring advice. **Regenerating farms and minds** Is it possible to convert from conventional industrial agricultural practices to a system of regenerative farming, restoring the natural health of the land? Can this be done while still maintaining a profitable production enterprise? Charles Massy thinks it is - and he has the personal experience to prove it, having undertaken the transformation on his own 2,000-hectare sheep and cattle property on the Monaro. Luckily for us, Charles is also keen to share his learnings and ideas with others! While Charles has been described as a "radical" farmer, he is part of a growing number of landholders who are keen to take a more sustainable approach to farming, managing their farms as valuable ecological systems. Late last year, Charles released the ground-breaking book "Call of the Reed Warbler: A New Agriculture - A New Earth". This book details his personal journey, together with an illuminating description of how and why regenerative agriculture is so important. <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lunch-with-charles-massy-tickets-45963865158>). Julia Ham, Chairperson, 0411 585479 02 69289562

Saturday 30th June was the **Hillview Park Landcare Nursery** working bee with 9 people coming along to bring the FarmLink donated table inside the glass house, set up the donated propagating pots from Merran Goesch, and take the first callistemon tip cuttings from the garden. They are looking forward to the Hillview Park open day and National Tree Day with Steph Cooke at the end of the month.



Up Coming Events

Thurs 5 and Fri 6 July **Tocal's Precision Agronomy courses** Deniliquin Workshop 1 (Workshop 2: 14-15 Aug) For more information <https://tinyurl.com/y8o4wj57>

To Register your interest go to <https://tinyurl.com/ybq2npxc>

[Tocal College Grains Research and Development Corporation Cotton Australia](#)

This training program provides functional, practical training in precision agronomy relevant to local climate and industries. Precision agronomy course brochure PDF, 1568.23 KB

Pre-approved applicants will be funded through the NSW AgSkilled training program.

To enable farmers and advisors to utilise existing services and data to receive better functionality, integration and return on investment. If you are an agronomist, advisor, or farmer who utilises technology then this course will be highly beneficial to you, your clients, and your business.

This is a four day course conducted over two workshops plus an online component.

5th and 6th July; Regional Telecommunications Review: invitation to public consultation meetings. The

Federal Government is conducting this important review, which occurs once every three years. Consultation is currently underway and the Regional Telecommunications Review Committee is visiting Griffith next Friday 6 July, and Wagga Wagga on the 5th July (details in the attached or [here](#)). Engagement in the Review is important as it has the potential to set a new paradigm for telecommunications in Australia's rural, regional and remote areas. More details of the review, the Committee and an Issues Paper can be found here

<http://www.rtirc.gov.au/home.html>.

5th July **Ladies on the Land** Prograze course Session 1 from 9.00am to 12.30pm

Session 1: Production, profit and sustainability (Pasture assessment), agenda is flexible so bring any questions you wish to have discussed. DIRECTIONS: Oxton Park Woolshed - 4 km Wombat Road from Burley Griffin Way, Harden (on the right)

or 12 km from Wombat (on the left). Please RSVP to assist with catering louise.hufton@lils.nsw.gov.au or 0428 863 954. What to bring: Warm clothes and shoes, a chair and a Prograze folder if your partner/friend has an old one which can be updated (if you don't have a folder, one can be purchased for \$30.00)

[https://www.livesmartlivesuccessful.com.au/over-hill-and-away-to-the-little-darling-days-on-the-land/2018/06/18/1476857/over-hill-and-away-to-the-little-darling-days-on-the-land-2018/](#)

- The dos & don'ts of succession planning
- Financing options for your business
- Marketing and branding strategies
- Value adding on and off farm

Tuesday 10 Jul Riverina LLS Feeding in Dry Times

8am to 11.30am, Cootamundra Golf Club - BBQ breakfast and workshop with morning tea break. Vet Update animal health - Kristy Stone, Animal Nutrition - Emily Stearman, Pastures - Geoff Minchin

Adelong: 1.00pm to 4.00pm - Adelong Services Club - BBQ lunch and workshop with afternoon tea break, Vet Update animal health - Kristy Stone, Animal nutrition - Emily Stearman, Pastures - Janelle Jenkins

10-11 July **Tocal's Precision Agronomy courses** Albury Workshop 1 (Workshop 2: 21-22 Aug 2018) For

more information <https://tinyurl.com/y8o4wj57> To Register your interest go to <https://tinyurl.com/ybq2npxc>

[Tocal College Grains Research and Development Corporation Cotton Australia](#)





10-16 JULY **The Farming & Grazing for Profit™ School Wagga Wagga** is supported by Local Land Services through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program to subsidize **The Farming & Grazing for Profit school**. Terry McCosker has three decades of experience as Australia's leading educator in holistic and integrated farming. [flyer and application form here](#).

11 July **Albury Wodonga Parklands Spotlighting Night at Stringybark Reserve** Join Parklands Rangers for a night adventure spotlighting for nocturnal native wildlife in the Stringybark Reserve. Parklands have been working with the community restoring the native plants to the area in recent years to support native species including the threatened Greater Glider. When: 7-9pm Where: Stringybark Reserve, Baranduda. Meeting Place: Baranduda Community Centre carpark, Sage Court, Baranduda. Please wear warm clothes and closed shoes and bring a personal torch. Parklands will bring the spotlight. Remember to stay with the Ranger and try not to scare the wildlife during the walk.

Consultations, Conferences, Courses and Awards

The **Australian Financial Review 100 Women of Influence Awards** presented by Qantas encompasses ten categories, with the aim of identifying a diverse group of women championing change in business and society.

The Awards uncover and promote Australian women who have dedicated their time and energy to help and encourage other women in their industry, and who are fighting for change every day. Nominations close Friday 6 July 2018. For more information visit: <http://www.afrwomenofinfluence.com.au/awards/>

18-20 September, The National Conference is the highlight of the Nuffield calendar, offering a meeting point for Scholars, Scholarship Investors and the broader agriculture and agribusiness industry. Join us as we host our National Conference in Melbourne, Australia's cosmopolitan and exciting culinary capital. The theme is 'Produce Change', inspired and encouraged by both the successes of Nuffield Scholars who are redefining agriculture in an age of unprecedented technological advances and globalisation. Conference Highlights

- Presentations from the returning 2017 Nuffield Scholars.
- Announcement of the 2019 Nuffield Scholars.
- The 'Where are they now?' segment, focusing on extraordinary members of the Nuffield Alumni who will share their story since completing their Nuffield Scholarship.
- Post-Conference Regional Tour to Northern Victoria.

The Program

- Tuesday 18 September, from 6pm: Annual Awards Dinner
- Wednesday 19 September: Conference Day 1
- Wednesday 19 September: Networking Cocktail Reception
- Thursday 20 September: Conference Day 2
- Thursday 20 September: Social evening at Southbank, Melbourne
- Friday 21 and Saturday 22 September: Post Conference Tour. Northern Victoria based with visits to various agricultural and regional businesses. The tour will conclude on Sunday morning, 23 September.





2018 Pest Fishing Competition – Entries open now! After some great feedback from the community we have now scheduled the 2018 National Pest Fishing Competition to commence in October. For all the details and how to get involved see below or go to our [webpage](#). We have also opened up an early bird offer to make it easier to participate!

The 2018 Pest Fishing Competition is the first national event of its kind helping your local Councils and your region raise awareness of damage pest fish cause to our natural environment. The event is run by CitySmart on behalf of participating local Councils and community organisations across Australia.

- It will be held over a competition window from 20th October to 25th November 2018, allowing you to select the most suitable day and time for your community
- A fun-based activity for residents catching pest fish
- Increasing publicity
- Promote current Council and regional programs
- Friendly competition with other Councils – a leader board will run online and a national winning Council area will be announced after all site totals are posted
- For residents, a free, fun day out with friends and family with prizes to be won.

Applications open: June 2018 Competition period: 20 October – 25 November 2018

Simply download and complete the 2018 National Pest Fishing Competition [Entry Form](#) here (also attached) and email to events@citysmart.com.au

Find out more Contact the Events team at CitySmart events@citysmart.com.au

ph: 07 3007 7000 web: www.citysmart.com.au/events/pest-fishing/

Want to get involved and **report conditions on your farm**? The NSW DPI Farm Tracker app allows you to take stock of conditions at your place. The app allows you to record rainfall, pasture availability, livestock conditions, crop performance and other on farm conditions. This allows you to keep a record of your farm over time, or use the information to compare different areas of your farm. If updated regularly this can help provide a valuable record of how seasonal conditions affect your property. The information you collect will also contribute to the Government's seasonal conditions monitoring. The data from your reports provides a valuable ground truth of the information in NSW DPI's seasonal conditions monitoring systems. Over time your data will also help improve the accuracy of early warning for all farmers across NSW. This is particularly valuable in areas where there are few rain gauges.

<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/climate-and-emergencies/droughthub/cdi/edis-self-reporting>

The **NSW/ACT Regional Achievement and Community Awards** are designed to encourage, acknowledge and reward the valuable contributions individuals, communities and businesses are making throughout regional and rural NSW & the ACT. Do you know an individual, group or organisation who deserves to be recognised? We would love for you to enter **July 2018!**

Nominations are now open for the prestigious NSW Roadside Environmental Management Award sponsored by the NSW Roadside Environment Committee as part of the 2018 Local Government Excellence in the Environment Awards. The award incorporates, but is not limited to:

- Assessment of roadside environments.
- Preparation of roadside vegetation management plans or similar.
- Implementation of roadside vegetation management plans or actions to support the roadside environment including staff/contractor training, community education, and demonstrated integration with other council plans or processes.
- Monitoring and evaluation of roadside vegetation management plans or similar.



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More details and how to apply are provided below.

To celebrate World Environment Day, LGNSW is opening nominations for the 2018 Excellence in the Environment Awards. The Awards recognise outstanding achievements by local government in NSW in managing and protecting the environment. This year the Excellence in the Environment Awards celebrate twenty one years of inspiration from NSW councils in programs, projects and people across 15 award categories. A new category, the Sustainable Infrastructure Award, is available this year. The Awards culminate in two prestigious Local Sustainability Awards: one for overall council performance, and one to recognise the individual achievements of a council staff member or elected councillor in the field of sustainability.

The awards are for projects undertaken during the period from January 2017 to May 2018. All local government organisations are encouraged to put forward an entry. Submit your entry online now. Award Categories

- Asbestos Management sponsored by SafeWork NSW
- Climate Change Action sponsored by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
- Communication, Education and Empowerment sponsored by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
- Community Sharps Management sponsored by NSW Ministry of Health
- Invasive Species Management sponsored by Department of Primary Industries
- Innovation in Planning, Policies and Decision Making sponsored by WolfPeak
- Natural Environment Protection and Enhancement: on-ground works sponsored by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
- Roadside Environmental Management sponsored by NSW Roadside Environment Committee
- Resource Recovery
- Community Waste Services
- Behaviour Change in Waste
- Sustainable Infrastructure sponsored by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage
- Water Management sponsored by Water Directorate

Sustainability Awards

The Awards culminate with the two prestigious Local Sustainability Awards: one for overall council performance and one to recognise the individual achievements of a council staff member or elected Councillor in the field of sustainability.

- Local Sustainability Award sponsored by Local Government Super and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, includes a \$10,000 prize for an overseas study tour or a professional development program for council staff.

- Louise Petchell Memorial Award for Individual Sustainability sponsored by Local Government Super.

All details on how to apply are available on the Awards website. **Entries close on Monday 30 July 2018.**

9-12th September 2018 The 21st Australasian Weeds Conference, being held in Sydney from 9-12 September 2018 has an agenda that will be of direct interest to grains agronomists as well as weeds researchers. The 2018 conference agenda has a concurrent theme running through the three days of the conference that is relevant to grains advisers. Day 1 themes deal with herbicide resistance, surveys, causes and management, Day 2 has a GRDC supported Grains Weed Symposium where a cross section of the latest grains weeds research will be showcased, while on Day 3, major new technology offerings from major life science companies and others will be on show. Click here for registration. **Early bird registration closes 13th August.**



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SHARE THE GRAIN STORY GrainGrowers is holding a competition for children between the ages of 5 and 18 living on a grains farm anywhere in Australia – or who has relatives who do – to tell the story about your family’s history on a grains farm, which blends together the past and the future. Prizes include a drone, a goPro and an iPad. **Deadline 17 September.** social@graingrowers.com.au

2018 AgriFutures™ **Rural Women’s Award Gala Dinner & National Announcement** confirmed for Monday, 15 October 2018. The seven inspiring women recently announced as 2018 AgriFutures™ Rural Women’s Award state and territory winners will gather in Canberra for the announcement of the National Winner and Runner Up during a gala dinner in the Great Hall, Parliament House on Monday, 15 October 2018. The Gala Dinner & National Announcement will be hosted by 2017 AgriFutures™ Rural Women’s Award National Winner Tanya Dupagne. The black tie event will be attended by alumni, industry and private sector leaders, government officials, parliamentarians and media. For the second year in a row, the event is open to the public to purchase tickets [online](#).

The [2018 state and territory winners](#) vying for the National title are:

- Linda Blackwood, NT
- Allison Clark, TAS
- Melissa Connors, VIC
- Darrylin Gordon, WA
- Jillian Kilby, NSW/ACT
- Alex Thomas, SA
- Krista Watkins, QLD

Tickets to the 2018 AgriFutures™ Rural Women’s Award Gala Dinner are on sale until 5.00pm, **Friday 28 September** (unless sold out prior) at agrifutures.com.au.

Farm decision making and climate change: Opportunity to participate

Decisions land managers make are based on research, training and often ‘rules of thumb’.

These rules of thumb can guide decisions such as when to join, what pastures perform better, what paddocks you use for off shears etc.

Variations we are beginning to experience as part of climate change may have an influence on these accepted rules of thumb. Researchers from the Australian National University and University of Technology Sydney have a current research project exploring agricultural adaptations to climate change and are looking for land managers to help them!

If you choose to participate in this study, researchers will ask you to:

Complete discussions, either in person or over the phone (up to 3 in the year)

Attend one or two (1 day) workshops over the year

Researchers would schedule activities around your availability.

Through combining the expertise of the farmers involved in the study with the research from ANU and UTS, the researchers will develop rules-of-thumb which are useful and appropriate to climate change adaptation decision-making. For more information, view the project fact sheet here, or contact Steven Crimp, ANU - (02) 6125 7265 or steven.crimp@anu.edu.au.

Sheep producer feedback is needed for animal health monitoring and preparedness study.

This online questionnaire takes around 30 minutes and is anonymous. It is being conducted by Charles Sturt University, Australian Bureau of Agricultural Resource Economics and Sciences and



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CSIRO as part of a Rural Research and Development for Profit project. By submitting a survey response, you will have the opportunity to go into a prize draw to win an iPad or one of 20 of \$50.00 retail gift vouchers. [Click here](#) to complete the survey, or use the following address in your browser <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/sheep03>

9 July - 11 July 2018 **GRDC Innovation Generation** (Wagga Wagga). TBC (please contact event organiser for [more details](#)). Innovation Generation (IG), is the leading annual gathering for under 35s working in the Australian grains industry.

24-26 July **NSW Farmers Annual Conference** 2018 at Luna Park, Milsons Point, SYDNEY https://www.nswfarmers.org.au/NSWFA/Events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=NSWFAAC

31 July -2 Aug Australian Grains Industry Conference in Melbourne, VIC <https://www.ausgrainsconf.com/australia>

Jul 26 - 27 Agribusiness Today Forum, TBC venue and location

Friday 27 July 2018 APCC12 Early-bird Registrations are now open!
Join us for a week of exciting presentations, local field trips and a 1-day threatened plant translocation workshop! One of our plenary speakers, Dr Jen Silcock from the Threatened Species Recovery Hub, will talk about the 60,000 year history of plant translocations in Australia. Download Jen's conference abstract here. There will be a night tour to Mulligans Flat Woodland Sanctuary, and a Field Trip to Barrer Hill Woodland Restoration Project with Greening Australia to view a variety of restoration and translocation techniques including the endangered Button Wrinklewort (*Rutidosia leptorrhynchoides*). There will also be free tours of the Herbarium and the Australian National Botanical Gardens, and you'll be able to take home free copies of the 2019 ACT Threatened Plants Calendar and the new 3rd Edition of the ANPC's Translocation Guidelines! The APCC12 Call for Abstracts is also now open - submissions close Friday 27 July 2018. Download the APCC12 registration form here. NB. Online registration will be available very soon! And join the ANPC today to receive considerable discounts on your registration fees!

26 July 2018 GRDC Grains Research Update (Moama) 9:00am - 1:00pm The GRDC Grains Research Update events provide agronomists, consultants, researchers and growers with a forum to showcase innovative thinking and the latest research outcomes relevant to modern farming systems. [View full details](#)

7-9 Aug 19th Australian Cotton Conference cottonshippers@bigpond.com
<http://www.australiancottonconference.com.au/>

11 August 2018 **Citizen Science: Challenges and Benefits for Biodiversity Conservation**
[The Citizen Science Forum](#) will explore a wide range of issues relating to the challenges and benefits of Citizen Science (CS) in biodiversity conservation. Presentations will be 15-20 minutes duration, with a panel Q&A session at the end of each thematic segment. Those interested in presenting should contact The Hut Environment and Community Association. Registration opens 1 May 2018. In Brisbane

13-14 Aug in Canberra for [Crawford Foundation](#) 2018 Annual Conference "Reshaping Ag for Better





14 - 16 August Australia New Zealand **Biochar Conference (ANZBC18)** will be held on Tuesday at Southern Cross University Gold Coast Campus, Bilinga, Qld, Australia.

15-16 August **CSIRO AgCatalyst** at Melbourne Park, VIC At AgCatalyst, attendees can examine the latest in digital technologies, data science and next generation genomics, delve into biologicals, materials science and new bioproducts, and discuss the latest developments in food science, precision agriculture and robotics.

Serving up value is the theme for 2018 with live demonstrations of cutting edge agriculture technology, latest food products and unique networking opportunities. 500-600 attendees are expected from agribusiness, peak industry bodies, rural research funders and providers, universities, CSIRO and policy-makers in innovation. <https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/AF/Areas/AgCatalyst>

Nominations for the **2018 NSW/ACT Regional Achievement and Community Awards are opening on Wednesday 30th May!** Including the **Prime Super Agricultural Innovation Award**, Great prizes are up for grabs, plus every person or group nominated will receive a certificate of achievement. To find out more please [click here](#). **Nominations Close 16 August**

2018 New South Wales/Australian Capital Territory Biosecurity Roundtable, Sydney on Thursday 30 August 2018. This event is presented by the National Biosecurity Committee, and co-hosted by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries and the Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate. PLEASE REGISTER FOR THE NSW/ACT BIOSECURITY ROUNDTABLE BY CLICKING [HERE](#)

24 August AIM Breakfast Yarrowonga 'Acknowledge Inspire Mingle'

17 August to 2 September for 'NSW Sustaining Landcare Week', supported by the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Landcare (PFL). Sustaining Landcare is about securing the services and support Landcare groups need to carry out their valuable projects and activities. We need to raise awareness of the consequences if Landcare does not have access to core infrastructure such as Local Coordinators and central support services. Landcare NSW has advised the NSW Government and all political parties that the cost of Landcare support over four years is \$32.5 million. Because of your hard work, Members of Parliament (MPs) are beginning to understand the issues. But there's more work to do, hence we hope you will read this email and take action.

Our State Minister, the Hon Niall Blair, has received a copy of the [Progress Report on the NSW Local Landcare Coordinator Initiative](#). We encourage all Landcarers to read this report and share it among your networks. It highlights the positive difference Landcare is making with the support of the NSW Government and Local Land Services. Educating our elected representatives about Landcare is an ongoing challenge and a great opportunity. For this reason, Landcare NSW is coordinating a statewide event to reach out to MPs and raise awareness of Landcare. While national 'Landcare Week' would seem the obvious opportunity, this is held in September when the NSW Parliament is in session making it impossible for MPs to attend events in their electorates.

Our aim is to encourage Landcare regions to hold an event to showcase your group and activities to your local Member of Parliament and other candidates in your electorate. This will assist groups to form a relationship with their local MP and other key stakeholders, including Local Land Services. If you already have this relationship, inviting them to an event will help to keep it alive. By holding activities statewide over the course



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of a week or 10 days we aim to increase our impact and raise awareness of Landcare.

This event may be something you already have planned: a tree planting, a field day, a working bee, a guided walk, an education session...the key is to make sure you invite your local MP! Please invite your Federal MP, too, as we also want to build relationships with representatives in Canberra. The PFL will send a notice to all NSW Members of Parliament encouraging them to accept the invitation to attend a local Landcare event in their electorate and will also encourage them to get in touch with the Local Landcare Coordinator in their region to find out about upcoming events. The PFL Chair Kevin Anderson, Member for Tamworth, has committed to organising a debate (a Notice of Motion) in the Legislative Assembly of the NSW Parliament the week beginning **17 September** which will enable all MPs to speak about Landcare in their electorate and the events they attended. In order to ensure the likelihood of your MP being able to attend your event, can you please send out an invitation to the MPs' offices ASAP and at the latest by mid-June.

14th September **FarmLink Open Day 2018**

25 August - 29 August 2019 **19th Australian Agronomy Conference (Wagga Wagga)**

National conference for agronomists to network and share research results.

[View full details](#)

September Twilight Weed and Crop Walk, Graham Centre Field Site, Wagga

The annual John Ralph Essay Competition was established in honour of John Ralph, the inaugural Chairman of the Australian Farm Institute. John made a major contribution to the Australian Farm Institute during his six years of chairmanship, and always insisted that comprehensive and objective research should be the basis for policy decisions, particularly for a sector such as agriculture, which has a wide diversity of different commodity groups and business arrangements

The topic for the 2018 John Ralph Essay Competition is: Society should determine the right to farm.

There are two categories for this competition:

- The Open category is open to anyone, including students, farmers, agribusiness participants, policy-makers, consultants, researchers, etc.
 - The Novice category is open to persons 25 years of age or under, on Saturday 31st of December 2018.
- The two winning entries will be selected by a panel of judges and these will be published in the Summer 2018 edition of the Farm Policy Journal, to be released in December, 2018.

Visit the Australian Farm Institute website for more information.

Entries close 5pm on Monday, 3 September 2018.

All September [National Biodiversity Month](#)

1st September [National Wattle Day \(link is external\)](#) -

9th to 12th Sept 2018 21st Australasian Weeds Conference The Weed Society of New South Wales Inc., on behalf of the Council of Australasian Weed Societies Inc., will be hosting the 21st Australasian Weeds Conference in the popular Sydney beach side suburb of Manly from 9 - 12 September 2018. This biennial conference carries on a long tradition of bringing the weed management community together to discuss new developments and share information about cutting-edge and best weed management practices. The



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conference attracts over 250 delegates from across Australasia and globally. Delegates will come together to network with peers, engage with industry sponsors, listen and participate in presentations and field trips on a variety of topics including; More information: www.21awc.org.au

10th - 13th September: 68th Australasian Grain Science Conference: Grain Science Transforming our future (Wagga Wagga). The conference themes of market intelligence, capacity building and value adding technologies align with GRDC's aim of investing in RD&E that creates enduring profitability for Australian grain growers

17 & 18 September Australian Regional Development Conference at Tweed Heads

SER Australasia Conference 2018 - Brisbane, 25-28 September 2018

The Society for Ecological Restoration Australasia (SERA) is pleased to announce the 2018 conference 'Striving for Restoration Excellence' to be held at the University of Queensland, Brisbane. SERA is a collaborative effort. If you are a scientist, practitioner, manager, policy maker, planner or someone who cares about our bush, seas and waterways you do not want to miss this conference! If you are interested in restoration planning and management or want to ensure restoration really makes a difference then this is the conference not to be missed. The proposed themes for SERA 2018 are focused around four pillars: Principles & Practice – *doing it right in restoration; Biomes - rainforests, woodlands, grasslands, seagrasses and beyond; Impact – making a change; Specialist Disciplines – seed technologies, provenance, marine restoration and more.* **Final call for Abstracts - deadline extended to 31 May!** [Click here for more information and submission details.](#)

Sept-Oct 2018 **Birds In Backyard Spring Survey** : Sept-Oct 2018 (and don't forget about Bird Week and the [Aussie Backyard Bird Count 22-28 Oct 2018](#))

23 Nov AIM Breakfast Yarrowonga 'Acknowledge Inspire Mingle'

December 4 Graham Centre End of Year Function, Convention Centre, CSU, Wagga

10 – 12 October **2018 National Landcare Conference and Awards**, to be held at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre from 10-12 October 2018. Themed 'Landcare – Building a Better Tomorrow', the 2018 National Landcare Conference and Awards is your opportunity to contribute to, engage with, and learn from your community and peers. Held over three exciting days, the event will deliver an engaging program with keynote speakers, informative presentations, social events, and educational field trips within close proximity to Brisbane's CBD. Recognising the hard work and innovation of the Landcare community, the Landcare Awards gala dinner is a chance to let your hair down and celebrate the achievements of peers with the announcement of the National Landcare category winners and the People's Choice Award winner. We officially welcome you to join us for what promises to be the leading knowledge-sharing event for the Landcare movement in 2018.

22 November 2018 **National Biosecurity Forum (held in Canberra)**

5th December [International Volunteer Day \(link is external\)](#)

5th December [World Soil Day \(link is external\)](#) -



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Grants, Funding, Scholarships & Opportunities

Locations to find grants

- Community builders: www.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au
- Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal: www.frrr.org.au
- Grants Link: <https://www.grants.gov.au/>
- Regional Arts NSW: <http://regionalartsnsw.com.au/grants>
- Business Projects: <http://ausindustry.gov.au>
- Our Community: <http://www.ourcommunity.com.au>
- Philanthropy: <http://www.philanthropy.org.au>
- Business: <https://www.business.gov.au/search?q=&c=assistance&c=events&c=advice>
- Equity Trustees administers a number of other charitable trusts and foundations which provide grants across a range of areas beyond our [five pillars granting program](#) areas.

Environmental Trust Saving our Species (SoS) contestable grants for **threatened ecological communities** and **landscape managed species**. Up to \$350,000 available for 7 year projects with significant input from partners. Projects on Box-gum woodlands, Sandhill Pine Woodlands, Snowgum Woodlands and SOS designated landscape species' such as threatened woodland birds, squirrel gliders, barking owls are contenders for example. Projects that benefit more than one listed species are sought. For detailed information including webinar registration see:

The NSW Government's Youth Opportunities program provides one-off, time-limited grants between \$10,000 and \$50,000 to not-for-profit organisations and local councils for youth-led and youth-driven community projects that have a positive youth development focus.

The NSW Department of Family and Community Services is seeking applications which address young people's identified needs in an innovative way and increase young people's connections to the community. Eligible activities include projects which develop a range of life skills and healthy behaviours; leadership, communication and teamwork; event management and planning; and providing volunteering opportunities that link young people to further education and training. **Applications close Monday 16 July 2018.**

Interested applicants can contact Anthea Wilson, Youth Opportunities Program contact on 02 8753 8430 or youth@facs.nsw.gov.au

Launch your journalism career with the JB Fairfax Award! The JB Fairfax Award for Rural and Regional Journalism is a prestigious national award offered by the Royal Agricultural Society of NSW Foundation. The Award encourages and supports a young university student who is passionate about pursuing a career as a rural or regional journalist upon graduation. The Award is an outstanding opportunity for a budding journalist to gain a diverse range of experiences at the coalface of rural and regional reporting, with three significant media internships providing a stepping stone to a career telling the rich stories of Rural Australia. The Award also includes a \$10,000 cash prize. To find out more about the JB Fairfax Award, please visit our website www.rasnw.com.au/scholarships, or to submit an application, please follow the link below.

DROUGHT FUNDING To help farmers, their families and rural communities manage and respond to the current dry conditions, the NSW Government this week announced an additional \$275 million in drought support measures. The FarmLink region is classified into two zones as either being on Drought Watch or Drought Onset.



Full details are available via the Droughthub website <https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/climate-and-emergencies/droughthub>; <https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/drought-assistance-fund> ; <https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/farm-innovation-fund> or by contacting the Rural Assistance Authority or Rural Financial Counsellor Service <https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/other>

NSW Regional Weed and Pest Animal Management Drought Funding Program 2018/19. Eligible applicants include local government and Incorporated bodies e.g. Landcare/Producer groups. All parts of the Murray LLS region are within the eligible funding area. There is \$1.5 M available for projects under the program across the state. **Closes 18 July** <https://www.ils.nsw.gov.au/drought/2018-19-weed-and-pest-animal-drought-project>

[Apply here - Tara Fellowship application](#) The **Tara Hunt Fellowship Our 1 Million Women** Tara Hunt fellowship will offer a young woman the opportunity to undertake communications training to expand her skills and knowledge and bring those learnings back to 1 Million Women. It's a glorious four-week journey (broken up over 6 months - see dates below) with the 1 Million Women team to learn how to effectively communicate the challenges of climate change and encourage solutions. We are looking for young women between the ages of 18 to 25 years-old and based anywhere in Australia or New Zealand to apply for the fellowship. If you have a love of this earth and a desire to make a positive change, then you are the perfect candidate. All expenses will be covered including travel, accommodation, food and all on the ground costs.

Application submissions close on Friday, 22nd June at 11:59pm (AEST).

All Fellowship costs are covered. Accommodation will be provided during your stay in Sydney plus daily living expenses and all your travel costs to and from Sydney and during your stay will be covered. **OVERVIEW OF THE FELLOWSHIP**

1. International Youth Media Summit - July 21st - August 9th
2. Working with 1MW - for 2 weeks anytime before December 31st 2018
3. 1MW Summit - Date to be confirmed (before end of 2018)

Funding available with Greening Australia for superb parrot habitat on properties in the South west slopes area – Yass, Boorowa, Young, Harden, Jugiong. Assistance is available for landholders who wish to plant or direct seed trees and shrubs or erect fencing to protect woodland habitat greater than 10 hectares for the Superb Parrot. Nicki Taws (02) 6253 3035, ntaws@greeningaustralia.org.au

Country Arts Support Program (CASP) 2019 Applications close: Friday 3 August, 17:00 AEST

CASP is an annual small grants program administered by Regional Arts NSW (RANSW) on behalf of Create NSW and is guided by the ACDP's three major objectives:

- A creative and vibrant NSW arts and cultural sector renowned for excellence and innovation (Quality).
- State-wide engagement with diverse audiences and communities (Reach).
- A resilient NSW arts and cultural sector (Health) and cultural activities.

The 2019 CASP Guidelines are [available here](#). Please note that applicants must contact their local Regional Arts Development Organisation (RADO) prior to submission. [You can find your local RADO here](#). Those in non-contributing regional areas are encouraged to contact Regional Arts NSW. For more information visit regionalartsnsw.com.au/grants/casp

Threatened Species Children's Art Competition 2018 **Art competition will be open for entries between June 4 and August 3 2018.** Children from 5-12 years old in NSW are invited to unleash their creativity while learning



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about our threatened species. Each child chooses one of over 1000 threatened species in NSW, researches, then draws or paints it, and writes a short explanation of their work. Photographs of artworks and written explanations can be submitted on our website. Fifty finalists will be chosen for an exhibition in Sydney in September, with winners announced at Parliament House Sydney on September 7, Threatened Species Day. In 2018 there will be great prizes offered in different age categories: 5-7 year olds, 8-10 year olds, 11-12 year olds; and special prizes for Most Unusual Entry, Best Group Work Entry and Best Written Explanation. Best Plant Entry is a new category for prizes! Some of the entries will be posted on Facebook as they come in and teachers will receive a certificate by email that they can print and hand out to every child who enters. Last year over 1600 children entered the competition. Sixty three primary schools got involved as well as numerous after school programs and private art schools. More information is available on the website or you can email or call on 0414958714 for flyers to be sent to you.

Nominate a woman who deserves to be recognised for the amazing work that she does

There are many exceptional women in NSW who deserve to be recognised. If you would like to acknowledge a woman in your community who has made a significant contribution, has demonstrated excellence in her career or is an inspiring role model, you can nominate her for the 2019 NSW Women of the Year Awards. State-wide Award categories:

- * NSW Premier's Woman of the Year recognises NSW women who have excelled in their chosen career, field or passion. These women are exceptional achievers who have made a significant contribution to NSW and whose accomplishments make them a strong role model for other women.
- * NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year recognises Aboriginal women in NSW who have excelled in their chosen career, field or passion. These Aboriginal women are exceptional achievers who have promoted economic, cultural or social opportunities for Aboriginal people in NSW.
- * Rex Airlines Regional Woman of the Year celebrates women from regional NSW who have made significant achievements in areas that are important to regional or rural communities.
- * Harvey Norman Young Woman of the Year celebrates women aged 18 to 30 years who have excelled in their career or made a significant contribution to their community.
- * First State Super Lifetime Achievement recognises an outstanding woman who has dedicated their life towards the advancement of women in NSW.
- * Community Hero celebrates heroes and/or volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to the community. These women are positive role models who inspire others to contribute to the community too.
- * NSW Business Woman of the Year recognises excellence in business in NSW. These women provide outstanding leadership and inspiration for other women to succeed.

Nominations close at 11:59pm on Sunday, 11 November 2018.

Visit www.women.nsw.gov.au or email Women of the Year Awards for more information.

Don't be sheepish about taking this online survey **Sheep producers are asked to take part in an online survey on animal health** monitoring and preparedness as part of a study conducted by Charles Sturt University, Australian Bureau of Agricultural Resource Economics and Sciences and CSIRO. The anonymous survey takes around 30 minutes. Respondents go into the draw to win an iPad or one of 20 of \$50 retail gift vouchers. Take the survey [here](#)

LANDCARE LOTTERY Landcare Australia has launched a charity lottery with \$1 million worth of prizes and 60% of ticket sales going directly to Landcare Australia. Tickets cost \$25, and can be purchased at <https://playforpurpose.com.au/landcare>



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Murray Dairy Business Mentoring Program - A free session with an AgBiz Assist agricultural consultant to help you implement a farm business process or practice for your farm. How does it work? This program is open to dairy farmers within the Murray region, you can expect from the program:

- A Consultation with an experienced financial mentor from AgBiz Assist
- Mentors to work with you to help implement a farm business practice or skill, including record-keeping, accounting, budgeting or business analysis
- Mentors will signpost farmers to tools, resources or services to enhance your business management, including programs such as DairyBase

Any dairy farmers in the Murray region interested in improving their capability across farm business management and analysis should contact Lachlan Barnes at Murray Dairy on 0438 092 352 or lachlanb@murraydairy.com.au

Landcare Receives Funding Boost for Dung Beetles Riverina Highlands Landcare Network is embarking on a 2 year project to look at the opportunities for maximising the use of dung beetles to improve pasture condition. With funding secured from Meat and Livestock Australia, the project will conduct a series of field trials to measure changes in cattle dung pads as a result of dung beetle activity. As part of the field trials, up to five species of beetles will be released across 5 participating properties. The producers involved will be helping with monitoring species survival rates and their spread across the property as well as their effectiveness in processing the dung. RHLN is looking for 5 properties geographically spread across the region to be involved in this trial. Landholders interested in being involved in the dung beetle trial should download a copy of the dung beetle project fact sheet and EOI which can be found at www.riverinahighlandslandcare.com.au. During the initial stage of the project the Landcare Network wishes to learn more about landholders current perceptions of dung beetles. We would appreciate you taking the time to complete the following survey. It should take about 5 minutes of your time. Your responses are voluntary, anonymous and will be confidential.

[Landholder Dung Beetle Survey](#)

Hort Innovation encourages all growers and industry participants to share their thoughts and ideas for the research and other investments they want to see – and it's as simple as using our [online Concept Proposal Form](#). Hort Innovation invests more than \$100 million each year into initiatives and programs that provide benefit to Australian horticulture growers, the wider horticulture sector and the community. Each investment starts with an idea – and we'd love for you to share yours.

Aid for NSW Farmer Upskill NSW farmers can take subsidized [pre-approved courses](#) through the State Government's \$45m Farm Business Skills Professional Development Program. Or farmers can [apply](#) for other professional development activities. Participants can [claim reimbursement](#) of up to 50% (GST-exclusive) up to \$5000/farmer or \$9000/farm business. For further information www.raa.nsw.gov.au/assistance/professional-development-program

Indigenous Advancement Strategy Community Led Grants enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and service providers to seek grant funding to address emerging needs and/or opportunities that they have identified as priorities. As a first step, potential applicants must discuss their proposal with their local PM&C Regional Network office, by calling 1800 079 098 and asking to speak to a staff member in their local office. [Indigenous Advancement Strategy Community Led Grants Website](#)





[Aussie Cotton
Farmers Grow
Communities](#)

This program allows cotton farmers in Qld or NSW to nominate a community group in their local area to receive a \$5,000 grant. Community members can also suggest a group or project for a farmer to nominate.

Closes
31 Aug

[In a Good
Place](#)

In a Good Place is a national grants program that provides support for community-driven initiatives that reduce social isolation, increase social participation and connectedness, and encourage people in rural, regional and remote communities who a...

Opens 9
July

[ANZ Seeds
of Renewal](#)

An ANZ funded program that aims to help build thriving communities in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia through the provision of grants. Seeds of Renewal also offers information technology (IT) equipment, thanks to ANZ's technology par...

Opens
16 July



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